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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

COMMUNIST CHINA BUYS MORE CEYLON RUBBER;
THAT MINISTER DENIES INTENT TO SHIP RUBBER
TO CEYLON FOR RE-EXPORT

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

According to the Penang pro-KMT Kuang-hua Jih-pao of 25 September 1952, the Polish vessel Kilinski sailed from Colombo on that day with the tenth shipment of Ceylon rubber, consisting of 1,500 tons, for Communist China, and the Bytom, another Polish vessel, will take the twelfth [sic] shipment in mid-November. The newspaper on 15 November noted the departure of the Bytom with 3,000 tons of rubber, purchased at 26 pence per pound which, while being the lowest China ever paid for Ceylon rubber, was still 3-4 pence above the current world market price. Negotiations were under way for yet another rubber deal, which would be the last in private exports should the Ceylon government sign a long-term rubber agreement with Communist China, the paper said.

Communist China's purchases of Ceylon rubber in the period January-September 1952 totaled 40,478,191 pounds, as reported in the 25 October issue of the Kuang-hua Jih-pao.

The Kuang-hua Jih-pao reported on 6 November that Thailand's Deputy Minister of Commerce had hailed the China-Ceylon Long-Term Rubber-Rice Agreement as "good news for Thailand's rubber business," in anticipation of China's procuring rubber from Thailand in the event Ceylon's rubber supply should prove inadequate to meet China's need. But according to the Rangoon independent Chung-kuo Jih-pao of 22 November, Thailand's Minister of Commerce denied his government had any intention of shipping rubber to Ceylon for resale to Communist China and reiterated Thailand's resolution not to sell strategic materials to Communist China.

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